

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) Platform for a device for wetting objects, especially for an incubation/hybridization chamber that is defined by an object support and by the platform arranged at a distance to said object support; said platform comprising a base provided with at least one spacer and a frame carrying said base; wherein the base is movably mounted relative to the frame by means of a bearing device, that said bearing device, in a first functional position, maintains the base in such a manner that it projects from the frame and/or the bearing device, and in a second functional position in project in some areas beyond an imaginary plane (E) in which the surface of the base is disposed.

2. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 1, wherein the bearing device consists of an elastic material – preferably silicone.

3. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 1, wherein the bearing device is annular in design.

4. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 1, wherein the bearing device comprises the following areas: a first area which is connected

with the frame or, respectively, with its front face, a second area which is connected with the base, and an elastic third area which is arranged between the first area and the second area.

5. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 1, wherein the third area has a thinner wall thickness than the first area and/or the second area.

6. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 1, wherein the bearing device comprises a projection serving as a pipetting attachment.

7. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 1, wherein the base comprises at least one attachment.

8. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 1, wherein at least one supply line exists to the space lying between the base and the object support.

9. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 8, wherein the at least one supply line comprises an opening provided in the surface of the base.

10. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 1, wherein at least one discharge exists from the space lying between the base and the object support.

11. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 10, wherein the at least one discharge comprises an opening provided in the surface of the base.

12. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one supply line and/or the at least one discharge is closable – preferably by a membrane .

13. (previously presented) Platform according to Claim 1, further comprising a holder.

14. (currently amended) Platform according to Claim 1, wherein the holder is pivotably connectable with a ~~basic~~ base part ~~preferably pivotably~~.

15. (currently amended) Method for wetting objects, ~~especially for forming~~ specifically to form an incubation~~[[/]]~~-hybridization chamber, by means of a platform having a base plate ~~being~~ provided with at least one spacer and a ~~platform comprising a frame carrying it and an object support, in particular frame carrying said spacer and an object support, specifically~~ by means of a platform according to Claim 1, ~~[[with]]~~ having the following steps:

- ~~Setting the base onto placement of the base plate on~~ the object support by means of the frame so that the at least one spacer ~~keeps~~ maintains the base plate at a distance ~~[[to]]~~ from the object support and a laterally open space between base plate and object support is enclosed~~[[;]], and~~

- exertion of a force on the frame of the base plate so that a bearing device movably connecting the frame and the base plate lies on the surface of the object support and ~~tightly seals~~ sealably closes the space between base plate and object support.